

# Spotlight on Spartanburg . . .

Spartanburg County was named for the Spartan Regiment, a local militia unit that fought in the Revolutionary War. The county was formed in 1785 as a part of the Ninety Six District. European settlers, primarily Scotch-Irish, began moving into this area from Pennsylvania and Virginia in the late eighteenth century. For many years, the primary occupations were small-scale cattle raising and cotton farming. Areas with mineral springs, such as Glenn Springs, were also popular summer resorts for lowcountry residents. Following the Civil War, textile manufacturing became the dominant industry, and Spartanburg County remains an important manufacturing center today. Some well known Spartanburg residents are hymn writer and publisher William Walker (1809-1875), Army General William C. Westmoreland, and industrialist Roger Milliken.

# **Spartanburg Workforce Center**

364 S. Church Street, P O Box 1250 Spartanburg, SC 29304 (864) 573-7525 / FAX: (864) 585-2664

## **Location & Climate**

- Located in the northwestern area of the state
- Surrounded by Cherokee, Union, Laurens, and Greenville counties, with North Carolina to the north
- This region has an average temperature of 59.7 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 55.4 inches.

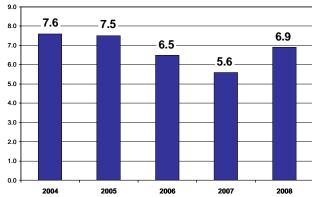
## **Population**

- Was 275,290 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 296,880 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 76.0% White, 21.0% African-American, and 2.9% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 7,081 in 2000 to 12,918 in 2007, a 82.4% change.

### **Labor Force**

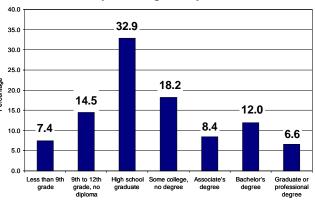
- Increased from 134,030 in 2007 to 137,650 in 2008
- Employment rose from 126,530 in 2007 to 128,180 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate climbed from 5.6% in 2007 to 6.9% in 2008.

# Unemployment Rates for Spartanburg County 2004 - 2008



#### **Educational Attainment**





## Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$28,970 for 2007.
- This was 93% of the state's per capita income of \$31.100.
- This was 75% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

## **Unemployment Insurance Benefits**

The Spartanburg Workforce Center paid \$30,731,679 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



#### SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995

Columbia, SC 29202

(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838

(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

http://www.sces.org/lmi